



Midterm primaries wrap up with fresh test of GOP's future



A bin of "I Voted Today" stickers rests on a table at a polling place, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022, in Stratham, N.H.

Associated Press

Opening of new parliamentary year ceremony attended by Governor of Aruba



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Midterm primaries wrap up with fresh test of GOP's future

By **WILL WEISSERT** and **HOLLY RAMER**

Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — A staunchly conservative retired Army general is vying for the chance to take on Democratic Sen. Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire in a contest many Republicans hoped would be among their best chances to flip a Senate seat this year.

But the prospect of Don Bolduc winning Tuesday's GOP Senate primary has dampened those ambitions. In a state that President Joe Biden carried by more than 7 percentage points, Bolduc has campaigned on a platform that includes lies that Donald Trump won the 2020 election and conspiracy theories about vaccines.

That underscores the sense of disappointment among some national Republicans that Gov. Chris Sununu, a relatively popular moderate who likely could have posed more of a threat to Hassan, chose instead to run for reelection. The GOP is grappling with the possibility of again nominating a candidate who is popular with the party's base but struggles to broaden support ahead of the November general election.

Republican primary voters have similarly chosen conservative candidates this year in moderate or Democratic-leaning states including Massachusetts and Maryland, potentially putting competitive races out of the party's reach.

Neil Levesque, director of the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, said Bolduc is a type of candidate who would have struggled to succeed in GOP politics before Trump's rise. He's never held elected office and had just \$75,000 in cash on hand last week. Still, Bolduc



Voters cast their ballots, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022, at a polling station in Derry, N.H.

Associated Press

has been able to make inroads by positioning himself as an ally of Trump and his election falsehoods.

"That is because the theme of his campaign and messaging is very similar to former President Trump," Levesque said. "If it mirrors the former president, it's been effective."

Federal and state officials and Trump's own attorney general have said there is no credible evidence the election was tainted. The former president's allegations of fraud were also roundly rejected by courts, including by judges Trump appointed.

Known for kicking off the primary season during presidential campaigns, New Hampshire is instead marking the conclusion of the nominating process for this year's midterms. There are also contests on Tuesday in Delaware and Rhode Island.

But the U.S. Senate race in New Hampshire is perhaps most revealing about the direction of the GOP. Bolduc is competing in a

crowded field that includes Chuck Morse, the more moderate president of the New Hampshire state Senate, who has been endorsed by Sununu. The governor called Morse "the candidate to beat Sen. Hassan this November and the candidate Sen. Hassan is most afraid to face."

Sununu feels differently about Bolduc, whom he's called a conspiracy theorist while warning that Bolduc could have a harder time winning the general election.

Bolduc doesn't seem bothered by Sununu's criticism. He's called the governor "a Chinese communist sympathizer." Bolduc hasn't been formally endorsed by Trump, who propelled many primary candidates to victory in key races throughout the summer. But the former president has called Bolduc a "strong guy."

The final primary contests are unfolding at a dramatic moment in the midterm campaign. Republicans have spent much of the

year building their election-year message around Biden and his management of the economy, particularly soaring prices. But Democrats are now entering the final stretch with a sense of cautious optimism as approval of Biden steadies and inflation has slowed for the second straight month, even as it remains high.

The Supreme Court's decision overturning a woman's constitutional right to an abortion may provide Democrats with the energy they need to turn back the defeats that historically accompany a new president's first midterms.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell acknowledged the challenge last month, saying his party may be more likely to end Democrats' narrow control of the House than the Senate. He bemoaned "candidate quality" as a factor that could sway some outcomes in his chamber.

Some Democratic groups, meanwhile, have sponsored primary ads promoting Bolduc, predicting he'll make an easier November opponent for Hassan. That's consistent with Democratic-aligned organizations backing pro-Trump candidates in key races around the country — a strategy some have criticized, arguing that it could backfire if those candidates go on to

win their general elections. Republicans in New Hampshire and around the country scoff at the notion that being a Trump loyalist — or not — could be a deciding general election factor, noting that the still unpopular Biden will be a drag on his party regardless.

The New Hampshire Republican Party has tweeted that Hassan "votes with Joe Biden 96.4% of the time."

Many of the same dynamics swirling around the former president are at work in New Hampshire's 2nd Congressional District, where pro-Trump candidate Bob Burns is among several Republicans vying for the party's nomination to face five-term incumbent Democratic Rep. Annie Kuster.

In New Hampshire's other congressional district, which encompasses Manchester and the southeastern part of the state, several Republicans are vying to challenge Democratic Rep. Chris Pappas, who could also face a potentially close general election reelection contest — once he learns who his opponent will be.

The GOP field includes former TV broadcaster Gail Huff Brown, wife of Scott Brown, a former U.S. senator from Massachusetts and ambassador to New Zealand during the Trump administration. Also running is Matt Mowers, who won the district's congressional 2020 Republican nomination and was a Trump administration State Department adviser.

But the candidate closest to Trump may be Karoline Leavitt, who worked in his White House's press office and has also campaigned with Republican Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

"Her compass always points to Trump," said Dante Scala, a University of New Hampshire political science professor. He added, in reference to the former president's "Make America Great Again" campaign slogan, "She, in a very kind of crisp, sharp, confident way, will say the most MAGA thing that can be said in any situation." □



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U.S.: Russia spent \$300M to covertly influence world politics

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia has covertly spent more than \$300 million since 2014 to try to influence politicians and other officials in more than two dozen countries, the State Department alleges in a newly released cable.

The cable released Tuesday cites a new intelligence assessment of Russia's global covert efforts to support policies and parties sympathetic to Moscow. The cable does not name specific Russian targets but says the U.S. is providing classified information to select individual countries.

It's the latest effort by the Biden administration to declassify intelligence about Moscow's military and political aims, dating back to ultimately correct assessments that Russia would launch a new war against Ukraine. Many of President Joe Biden's top national security officials have extensive experience countering Moscow and served in government when Russian President Vladimir Putin launched wide-ranging campaigns to influence the 2016 and 2020 U.S. presidential elections.

A senior administration official declined to say how much money Russia is believed to have spent in Ukraine, where President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his top deputies have long accused Putin of meddling in domestic politics. The official noted allegations of Russian influence in recent elections in Albania, Bosnia and Montenegro, all Eastern European countries that have faced historical pressure from Moscow.

Unlike declared efforts by foreign governments to lobby for preferred initiatives, Russia's covert influence involved using front organizations to funnel money to preferred causes or politicians, the cable alleges. That includes think tanks in Europe and state-owned enterprises in Central America, Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa. The U.S. has in its history also covertly funded political



Russian President Vladimir Putin delivers a speech during a plenary session at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, Russia, Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022.

Associated Press

groups and been responsible for efforts to topple or undermine foreign governments. The official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity under rules set by the administration, rejected comparisons between Russia's activities and current U.S. financing of media and political initiatives.

Putin was spending huge sums "in an attempt to manipulate democracies from the inside," the official said. State Department spokesman Ned Price called Russia's covert funding an "assault on sovereignty."

"It is an effort to chip away at the ability of people around the world to choose the governments that they see best fit to represent them, to represent their interests, and to represent their values," he said.

Russia's embassy in Washington did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The State Department took the unusual step of releasing a diplomatic cable that was sent on Monday to many U.S. embassies and consulates abroad, many of them in Europe, Africa and South Asia, laying out the concerns.

The cable, which was marked "sensitive" and not intended for foreign audiences but was not classified, contained a series

of talking points that U.S. diplomats were instructed to raise with their host governments regarding alleged Russian interference. Among steps diplomats were told to recommend include sanctions, travel bans, and exposure of covert financing.

According to the cable, intelligence officials believe Russia planned to transfer "at least hundreds of millions more" dollars in funding to sympathetic parties and officials around the world.

The cable does not say how intelligence officials came up with the total figure of \$300 million. It also does not address concerns that Russia or other adversaries may again try to interfere in U.S. politics. □

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Census: Inequality last year grew, but child poverty dropped

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER**
Associated Press

Income inequality in the U.S. increased last year for the first time in more than a decade, but childhood poverty was cut almost in half due to expansion of the federal government's child tax credit and stimulus payments made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to new survey results released Tuesday by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The income inequality index increased 1.2% from 2020 to 2021, the first time the measurement known as the Gini Index has increased since 2011, according to a report on Current Population Survey results.

Declines in household income among the poorest U.S. residents appears to have driven the widening of the income inequality gap. Households in the 90th percentile of the income distribution, the richest, had income that was 13.5 times higher than households in the 10th percentile, the poorest. That was a 4.9% increase from 2020.

"It is sensitive to extremes at either end," said Liana Fox, a Census Bureau official. "This suggests that the decline in real income at the bottom drove the increase in the Gini index."



Kymme Williams-Davis, right, takes orders at the Bushwick Grind Café she owns, Thursday Sept. 8, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

For the most part, there was little year-to-year change in median household income based on demographic traits like race or ethnic background.

However, people in households headed by someone age 65 or older, those with only some college education and households where family members didn't live together saw dips in their income from 2020 to 2021. Among the reasons was that the fixed income that many seniors are on didn't

keep pace with rising inflation in 2021, and many of the "nonfamily" households were headed by women whose income lagged those headed by men.

Households headed by people with at least a college degree saw bumps in overall income last year. Broken down by race and ethnic background, Asian households in 2021 had the highest median income at \$101,418, followed by non-Hispanic whites at \$77,999 and Hispanics at \$57,981.

Black households had median income of \$48,297.

Median incomes were highest in the West at \$79,430 and the Northeast at \$77,472, followed by the Midwest \$71,129 and the South at \$63,368.

The time period in the latest Current Population Survey covered the third round of pandemic-related stimulus payments and expansions to the Child Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child and Dependent Care Credit. The

time period in the survey also saw a 4.7% increase in consumer prices, the largest annual increase in the cost-of-living adjustment since 1990.

The expansion of the Child Tax Credit helped reduce childhood poverty, as measured by the bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure, from 9.7% in 2020 to 5.2% last year. It is the lowest since the new measure was implemented in 2009. "The new data show the significant impact the expansion of anti-poverty programs during the COVID-19 pandemic had on reducing child poverty," the Census Bureau said in a report. The pandemic-related stimulus also helped the overall population.

The Census Bureau calculates poverty in two ways — the "official" poverty rate and the Supplemental Poverty Measure, which incorporates government programs designed to help low-income families. The official poverty rate last year was 11.6%, or 37.9 million people, and it wasn't statistically different from what it was in 2020. The Supplemental Poverty Measure last year was 7.8%, a drop of 1.4 percentage points from 2020 and the lowest in the dozen years that it has been calculated. □

Malcolm X becomes 1st Black honoree in Nebraska Hall of Fame



Malcolm X speaks to reporters in Washington on May 16, 1963. Fifteen years after being rejected as too controversial, Malcolm X has been inducted as the newest member of the Nebraska Hall of Fame.

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Fifteen years after being rejected as too controversial,

Malcolm X is the first Black honoree to be inducted into the Nebraska Hall of

Fame.

The organization's commission selected the civil rights icon on Monday with a 4-3 vote, edging out the late University of Nebraska educator and author Louise Pound.

"Malcolm X used the lessons he learned early in life and his intellectual power, dedication and perseverance in the fight for freedom and equality for all during the civil rights movement in America," said commission chairman Ron Hull. "His work and his legacy continue to impact the citizens of the world."

Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1925 as the son of a Baptist preacher. His fam-

ily left for Milwaukee the following year after threats from the Ku Klux Klan.

At 20, he was convicted of burglary in New York and sentenced to nearly seven years in prison, where he converted to Islam and later changed his name. He emerged as a fiery Nation of Islam minister with a message that Black people should cast off white oppression "by any means necessary," before later splitting from the Nation of Islam and renouncing racial separatism.

He was assassinated in Manhattan's Audubon Ballroom by gunmen who opened fire during a speaking engagement.

The firebrand was first nomi-

nated for Nebraska's Hall of Fame in 2004, but passed over by a commission made up solely of white men who instead selected a mid-1900s U.S. senator who made a name for himself with his campaign to remove gay men from government posts in the 1940s and 1950s.

The pick of Sen. Kenneth Wherry was later nixed because of an open-meetings violation.

Malcolm X was passed over again in 2007 for little-known botanist Charles Bessey.

Each Nebraska Hall of Fame member is immortalized with a bronze bust displayed in the state Capitol. □

Armenia, Azerbaijan report 99 troops killed in border clash

By AVET DEMOURIAN

Associated Press

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) —

Fighting on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan has killed about 100 troops as attacks on both sides Tuesday fed fears of broader hostilities breaking out between the longtime adversaries.

Armenia said at least 49 of its soldiers were killed; Azerbaijan said it lost 50.

The fighting erupted minutes after midnight with Azerbaijani forces unleashing an artillery barrage and drone attacks in many sections of Armenian territory, according to Armenia's Defense Ministry.

The ministry said fighting continued during the day despite Russia's attempt to broker a quick cease-fire. Shelling grew less intense but Azerbaijani troops still were trying to advance into Armenian territory, it said.

It added that the Azerbaijani shelling damaged civilian infrastructure and wounded an unspecified number of people.

Azerbaijan's Foreign Ministry said it was responding to a "large-scale provocation" by Armenia late Monday and early Tuesday. It said



Armenian Prime minister Nikol Pashinyan delivers his speech at the National Assembly of Armenia in Yerevan, Armenia, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022.

Associated Press

Armenian troops planted mines and fired on Azerbaijani military positions.

The two countries have been locked in a decades-old conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, which is part of Azerbaijan but has been under the control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia since a separatist war there ended in 1994.

Azerbaijan reclaimed broad swaths of Nagorno-

Karabakh in a six-week war in 2020 that killed more than 6,600 people and ended with a Russia-brokered peace deal. Moscow, which deployed about 2,000 troops to the region to serve as peacekeepers under the deal, has sought to maintain friendly ties with both ex-Soviet nations.

The Russian Foreign Ministry urged both parties "to refrain from further escalation and show restraint."

Moscow has engaged in a delicate balancing act, maintaining strong economic and security ties with Armenia, which hosts a Russian military base, while also developing close cooperation with oil-rich Azerbaijan. As the fighting raged overnight Tuesday, Pashinyan quickly called Russian President Vladimir Putin and later also had calls with French President Emmanuel Macron, European Council

President Charles Michel, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken to discuss the hostilities.

Blinken also spoke with Azerbaijan's president, Ilham Aliyev. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov spoke by phone with his Azerbaijani counterpart, Jeyhun Bayramov, Azerbaijan's Foreign Ministry said. Speaking in parliament early Tuesday, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan rejected the Azerbaijani claim that it was responding to Armenian provocations. He said his recent European Union-brokered talks with Aliyev in Brussels had revealed what he described as Azerbaijan's uncompromising stand.

On Facebook, Aliyev expressed condolences "to the families and relatives of our servicemen who died on September 13 while preventing large-scale provocations committed by the Armenian armed forces in the direction of the Kalbajar, Lachin, Dashkasan and Zangilan regions of Azerbaijan."

Turkey, an ally of Azerbaijan, also placed the blame for the violence on Armenia. □

EU lawmakers support ban of goods linked to deforestation

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — European Union lawmakers have backed a proposal for a law that would ban the sale in the 27-nation bloc of agriculture products linked to the destruction of forests. MEPs gathered on Tuesday in Strasbourg, France, supported and strengthened a plan from the EU's executive arm with 453 votes to 57, and 123 abstentions. The EU Parliament will now start negotiations on the final text with EU member states.

Once approved, the law would force companies and producers to give assurances that products are "deforestation-free." Businesses would be forced to verify that agricultural goods sold in the EU have

not been made on "deforested or degraded land anywhere in the world," the Parliament said.

"Acknowledging that the EU is responsible for around 10% of global deforestation, we have no choice but to ramp up our efforts to halt global deforestation," said Christophe Hansen, the lawmaker in charge of the Parliament's report.

In addition, MEPs proposed that banks and financial institutions should be covered by the law to prevent them from investing in projects linked to deforestation.

"This could be the beginning of the end of the money pipeline that is destroying forests around the world — but only if national governments across the EU step up and support this

plan to make European banks deforestation-free in negotiations on the final law," said Giulia Bondi, from Global Witness campaigning group.

Deforestation in South America, Africa and Asia is driven mainly by agricultural expansion.

Quoting data from the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, the EU Parliament said that some 420 million hectares of forest were lost to deforestation between 1990 and 2020. This is an area larger than the EU.

The European Commission, which proposes EU laws and supervises the way they are enacted, suggested last year that the legislation covered soy, cattle, palm oil, wood, cocoa and coffee.

Under the position adopted



Greenpeace activists stage a protest against the deforestation outside of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, eastern France, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022.

Associated Press

Tuesday, lawmakers also want to include pig meat, sheep and goats, poultry, maize and rubber, as well as charcoal and printed paper products.

"MEPs also want compa-

nies to verify that goods are produced in accordance with human rights provisions in international law and respect the rights of indigenous people," the Parliament said. □

Ancient skeleton found in Mexico cave threatened by train

By **MARK STEVENSON**

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A prehistoric human skeleton has been found in a cave system that was flooded at the end of the last ice age 8,000 years ago, according to a cave-diving archaeologist on Mexico's Caribbean coast.

Archaeologist Octavio del Rio said he and fellow diver Peter Broger saw the shattered skull and skeleton partly covered by sediment in a cave near where the Mexican government plans to build a high-speed tourist train through the jungle. Given the distance from the cave entrance, the skeleton couldn't have gotten there without modern diving equipment, so it must be over 8,000 years old, Del Rio said, referring to the era when rising sea levels flooded the caves.

"There it is. We don't know if the body was deposited there or if that was where this person died," said Del Rio. He said that the skeleton was located about 8 meters (26 feet) underwater, about a half-kilometer (one third of a mile) into the cave system. Some of the oldest human remains in North America have been discovered in the sinkhole caves known as "cenotes" on the country's Caribbean



In this photo courtesy of Octavio del Rio, shows fragments of a pre-historic human skeleton partly covered by sediment in an underwater cave in Tulum, Mexico, Sept. 10, 2022.

Associated Press

an coast, and experts say some of those caves are threatened by the Mexican government's Maya Train tourism project.

Del Rio, who has worked with the National Institute of Anthropology and History on projects in the past, said he had notified the institute of the discovery. The institute did not immediately respond to questions about whether it intended

to explore the site. He stressed that the cave — whose location he did not reveal because of a fear the site could be looted or disturbed — was near where the government has cut down a swath of jungle to lay train tracks, and could be collapsed, contaminated or closed off by the building project and subsequent development. "There is a lot more study

that has to be done in order to correctly interpret" the find, Del Rio said, noting that "dating, some kind of photographic studies and some collection" would be needed to determine exactly how old the skeleton is.

Del Rio has been exploring the region for three decades, and in 2002, he participated in the discovery and cataloging of re-

mains known as The Woman of Naharon, who died around the same time, or perhaps earlier, than Naia — the nearly complete skeleton of a young woman who died around 13,000 years ago. It was discovered in a nearby cave system in 2007.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador is racing to finish his Maya Train project in the remaining two years of his term over the objections of environmentalists, cave divers and archaeologists. They say his haste will allow little time to study the ancient remains.

Activists say the heavy, high-speed rail project will fragment the coastal jungle and will run often above the fragile limestone caves, which — because they're flooded, twisty and often incredibly narrow — can take decades to explore.

Caves along part of the coast already have been damaged by construction above them, with cement pilings used to support the weight above.

The 950-mile (1,500-kilometer) Maya Train line is meant to run in a rough loop around the Yucatan Peninsula, connecting beach resorts and archaeological sites. □

Argentina: Third person arrested in VP assassination attempt



A banner depicting Argentina's Vice President Cristina Fernandez hangs from a government building early Friday, Sept. 2, 2022, hours after a person pointed a gun at her outside her home in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Associated Press

By **ALMUDENA CALATRAVA**
Associated Press
BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — A third person has been arrested as part of the

investigation into the assassination attempt on Argentine Vice President Cristina Fernández — a move that suggests the incident could

have involved a network of people.

Agustina Díaz, who appears to have at least been a close friend of the girlfriend of the man accused of trying to shoot Fernández on Sept. 1, was detained Monday in the province of Buenos Aires, an official with the knowledge of the case confirmed to The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak on the investigation.

Fernando Sabag Montiel, a 35-year-old Brazilian citizen, was detained shortly after he pointed a handgun at Argentina's vice president outside her home. He pulled the trigger twice, but the Bersa handgun failed

to go off, though it was loaded with five bullets.

His girlfriend, Brenda Uliarte, a 23-year-old Argentine who reportedly was at the scene of the attempted shooting, was arrested three days later.

Uliarte and Sabag Montiel are both accused of trying to assassinate Fernández, the most important political figure in Argentina of the last 15 years. She was president for two terms from 2007 to 2015 and now has both ardent followers and detractors.

Uliarte had Díaz's contact saved in her phone as "love of my life" and the two were in touch before and after the assassination attempt. Díaz reportedly helped Díaz escape the scene after the

assassination attempt, according to the official.

"With what we're learning until now, the role Brenda played becomes more relevant," the official said.

Sabag Montiel has been living in Argentina since the 1990s. Photos posted to his now-inactive social networks appear to show he has tattoos with Nazi symbols on his arms and hands. Judicial investigators are using security footage and cellphone communications to try to reconstruct what happened in the days before the attempted shooting and whether there were any suspicious people present around the vice president's home on the days before the attack. □

Opening of new parliamentary year ceremony attended by Governor of Aruba

ORANJESTAD – Yesterday took place the opening of the Parliamentary Year 2022-2023. This is the 37th Parliamentary Year for the Country of Aruba, and it is a very solemn moment for the most important organ of our country.

Governor of Aruba, His Excellency Alfonso Boekhoudt gave an eloquent speech in which he went over the challenges that Aruba is facing, and his vision for the future ahead of us.

Prime minister Evelyn Wever-Croes expressed in a press release that the Governor gave his

speech in a very clear and detailed manner expressing what the government is working on. "Indeed we went through difficult times during Covid, but we are in recovery. Aruba is one of the countries which was most affected, but we are also experiencing the strongest recovery. This is thanks to the entire Aruban community and the Parliament of Aruba, which in the most critical moments, knew to show willingness and flexibility to support the whole of Aruba during the difficult moments", Wever-Croes expressed.

Finalizing, premier Wever-Croes thanked the

president of Parliament, Mr. Edgard Vrolijk, who was re-elected; vice-president of Parliament, Mr. Raymond Kamperveen and the entire Parliament of Aruba a very successful Parliamentary Year, and God willing all laws that need to be approved in order to recover everything that was lost during the pandemic, can be passed. "In union, standing together to face every challenge together, the Government, Parliament, and People of Aruba was able to bring progress and wellness to our entire community", she said.



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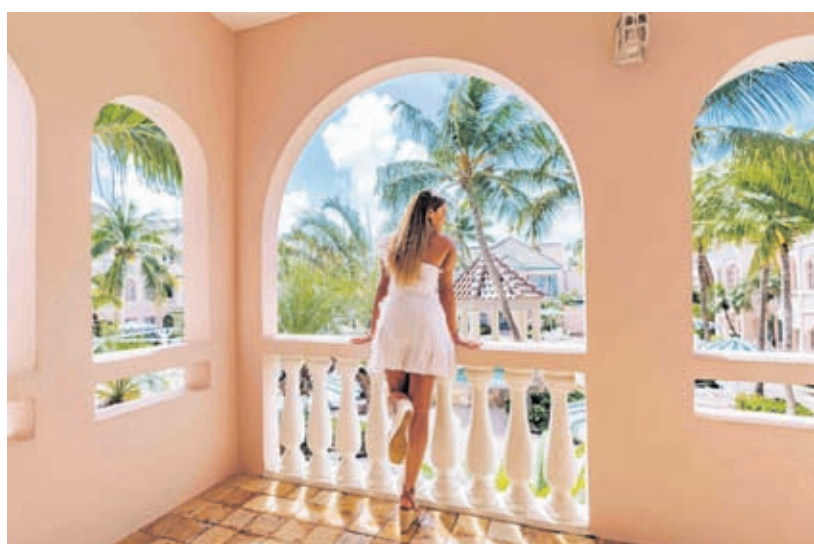
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NOORD, Aruba— The mood is off-enthusiastic at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort (CPVR) as members and loyal guests return each year to share the special bond of a community formed over years of visits to their own special spot in Aruba. With a 35-year history of providing just-right annual vacations and facilitating flourishing lifelong friendships, CPVR is a beloved vacation ownership property where the daily meet-up poolside in spacious, palm-lined courtyards is a favorite part of the stay.

This private, full service resort offers a tranquil, secluded spot, where easy familiarity, high spirits, and laughter mark the strength and vibrancy of Caribbean Palm Village Resort's very special ambiance. Friendliness among fellow members and guests as well as employees remains a regular staple of a CPVR stay, often aided by activities coordinator Mislady Fingal, who is always ready to share her high energy and infectious positive mood.

"We are a tight-knit, welcoming group here. You see this every day and especially on check-out days, when the ritual of departure includes warm good-byes and hugs before heading to the airport," remarks one

owner who has happily owned at the CPVR for three decades. "There are many different types of resorts in Aruba, but we love to stay at CPVR because it is an unhurried atmosphere with all the service perks of a regular resort. We never have to fight to get a pool lounge, and there's always an opportunity to relax among friends and enjoy the resort amenities as well as enjoy access to the many great restaurants and activities nearby."

This Noord-based timeshare resort offers a peaceful home base that is only a short drive from Aruba's bustling high-rise Palm Beach area, and continues to deliver happiness daily and countless treasured memories over the long term. Its unique, intimate resort environment continues features the largest suites in Aruba as well as two large pools in wide courtyard settings. It provides a private, attractive place to enjoy Aruba's cooling winds and ever-present sun for a truly idyllic vacation experience.

The suites offerings, available in Studio, One-Bedroom and Two-Bedroom are spacious and allow owners and guests a comfortable environment with the convenience of fully equipped kitchens. The property also features several BBQ areas and an

on-property restaurant as well as bar areas both by the restaurant and right by the pool for swim-up service. The attractions are not limited to the property with concierge services offered through its Activities Department. All-in-all, it provides an excellent option for an Aruba stay at a great value.

Everyday reunions, activities and interactions among members, guests and employees remain a

constant at this well-established happy place on one happy island. Caribbean Palm Village Resort is located off Palm Beach Road at Noord 43-E, and remains a welcoming community for longtime visitors as well as first time guests alike. Feel free to check it out with a visit and a chat with the on-property Sales Associate Laura Croes, or give her a call in Aruba at Tel: 526-2883 or from the US: 786-672-0384. □



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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island



EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority representative Kimberley Richardson had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates.

These certificates are a way to say "Masha Danki" for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. The titles are as following: 10+ years "Distinguished Visitor", 20+

years "Goodwill Ambassador" and 36+ years "Emerald Ambassador".

The honorees were Mrs. Donna Dansberry and Mrs. Kathie Lowenstein, both

from Missouri, United States who were honored as Distinguished Visitors.

This symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between the 10-20-35 and more consecutive year mark.

About the reason for returning to our Island, Kimberley wrote "These wonderful women stated that they love visiting the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny

weather, its white sandy beaches and turquoise waters, its picturesque sunsets, its safety, its variety of foods, and Aruba's warm and friendly people whom have become like family to them."

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Marriott's Aruba Surf Club presented the certificates to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □

The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority representative Kimberley Richardson had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates. These certificates are a way to say "Masha Danki" for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. The titles are as following: 10+ years "Distinguished Visitor", 20+ years "Goodwill Ambassador" and 36+ years "Emerald Ambassador".

The honorees were the couple Mr. Ronald and Mrs. Eileen Jones, from New Jersey, United States who were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors.

This symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of



the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between the 10-20-35 and more consecutive year mark.

About the reason for returning to our Island, Kimberley wrote "This wonderful and thoughtful couple stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, its white sandy beaches and turquoise waters, its picturesque sunsets, its safety, its variety of

foods, and Aruba's warm and friendly people whom have become like family to them."

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Playa Linda Beach Resort presented the Goodwill Ambassador certificate to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □

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Article by Etnia Nativa

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An unsuspecting predator

Episode CLXXI 171

Etnia Nativa through Island Insight shares our native cultural awareness, educates and safeguarding Aruba's heritage by elevating each reader into an island keeper state of mind.

Be encouraged to discover in every episode the true native effect, live it, discover more reasons to love Aruba and live up your island adventure in an authentic revealing way. Our island is a tiny tourist destination with a fragile ecosystem, covering thousands of years of history.

Here is when Etnia Nativa's main objective comes to mind, sharing information through education.

During this episode we would like to share our concern and elevate awareness regarding the threat non endemic animal species represent to our natural ecosystem. Many floral and faunal unique native species quantities has diminished or has gone extinct.

There are many types of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals that do great harm to our endemic species, like our furry pets friend Mr. cat that has gone wild. Massive foreign labor import of the Tourist industry brought along the domestic cats following their owner along the newly build neighborhood and the ideal place to develop top feline instinct, however fatal for many small animals.

By now it is scientifically a fact that feral cats are the greatest threat to wildlife and are responsible for the extinction of a large number of bird species, small mammals, reptiles and frogs throughout the world and of course Aruba does not escape this situation, daily we see how baby cats are abandoned to their fate on our island. At the same time that scientists and governments around the world are fighting against this dramatic problem of "pet abandonment". And contrary to all rationality their care and proliferation are constantly being promoted and protected by animal welfare laws and social media and when applied to environmental management, can have devastating effects.

The domestic cat (*Felis silvestris catus*) has been living



with man for more than 9,500 years if not more. Scholars suggests that domestic cats are descendants of the wild cat of the Middle Easter cat, while others defend that it comes from the African wild cat (*Felis silvestris lybica*). In any case, just as the dog was domesticated by hunters, the cat was domesticated in the Neolithic by farmers.

Today there are more than 50 breeds of cats all around the world while some of them are to be considered wild species. All felines are carnivorous placental mammals, sharing a family with hunters such as the lion, the tiger or the brown leopard; it is not a secret that the cat is also a formidable predator. Etnia Nativa holds the idea that it is absolutely false that managed by letting it do and observe what happens without intervening even more when it comes to an ecosystem as fragile as that of our island. The current challenge is to ensure that our intervention is aimed at conserving and improving the environment in a sustainable way and protect the habitat of all native species.

One of the oldest forms of interaction between man and the environment, after being a hunter, was to catch wild species alive and domesticate them, which led to the beginning of livestock farming. That is where the now domestic species come from, and they all have their wild equivalent.

A necessary control of feral cats by the relevant authorities is imminent, in the first place towards domestic cats, since having domestic cats roaming freely,

should be prohibited under important sanctions. It should also be mandatory for the domestic cat to wear a bell because in addition to being able to clearly differentiate the domestic cat – which has escaped – from those who has become feral. This would undoubtedly reduce predation by making it difficult for them to sneak up on their prey.

Not only birds and mice are victims of cats; also other species such as lizards and even bats, which have suffered a dramatic decrease in numbers-, see episode 74- and are now rarely seen in the wild around agave blossoms, parks and gardens. In addition to rabbits as well as small chicks ends on a cats and boa's menu. See episode 77- Introduced and invasive species.

If you love to explore Aruba we encourage you to do something different, outside the tourist grid. Become one of our exclusive visitors at Etnia Nativa, where you will be able to admire native art collections, archaeological artifacts and historical furniture while the installation itself and the lecturer will transform your mind set from an simple observer in to an conservator.

Since 1994, Etnia Nativa, which is a private residence and home of our columnist/artist, Anthony Croes, sharing with tourism an authentic view of Aruba.

Anthony guides each guest step by step during the visit so take some time away from the beach scene, book your visit and feel the native effect! R.S.V.P. etnianativa03@gmail.com or whatsapp + 297 592 2702.

Center of Cultivation at Aruba National Park with goal of expanding diversity of local flora

ORANJESTAD – During a conversation with Giancarlo Nunes, Research & Conservation Manager at Aruba National Park, he said that his work can be divided in two parts: one is species conservation, and the other is habitat, that is, the ecosystem in which the animals live.

It is important to focus on both at the same time, and regarding habitat, a lot of times this has to do with flora, the vegetation of Aruba. Visiting the Green House, the Center of Cultivation at Aruba National Park, once can see that this is going very well in the process of cultivating plants that are being lost, and that are very important for our local ecosystem.

"The vegetation in Aruba was heavily damaged since the times of colonization already, the plants received a lot of damage and a lot of plant species were lost that way. The colonizers also introduced goats, donkeys and cows, and these caused that the plants could not grow back", Nunes commented. The cutting of plants is the way in which we lost our native plants, and introduction of other types of animals ensured afterwards that the big 'mondi' – Aruba's wilderness – could not grow back. Now, 500 years later, we can see the Aruba that resulted from these developments; we have a lot of cacti and thorny plants, which is not the Aruba of the past, according to Nunes. We used to have a lot of fruit trees, a lot of medicinal plants – which the goats also enjoy – and these seeds are in the soil, but don't get a chance to grow back.

Aruba National Park Foundation is busy for four years already with their project Center of Cultivation. It began with an analysis of the situation, finding information about species of Aruba's flora that are native to the island and are being lost.



Palicia Cora, for example, is a very important plant for the animals of Aruba, the native birds. There are less than ten of these left in the wild. "Because there are so few, this is one of the plant species that we are focused on bringing back, and this is the basis for the program to expand flora diversity in Aruba, especially in the park areas."

An analysis was carried out to see which plants are very scarce in Aruba, in order to cultivate them and begin introducing them once again in the park. Expanding the diversity of the local flora automatically means that the diversity of our fauna will also expand; with more food for our birds, more areas for our insects, etc.

Life itself will expand on our island if we make sure that the habitat, the flora, the vegetation of Aruba is healthier.

The idea for the Center of Cultivation is to plant these types of vegetation in the park. Some tests were carried out already, and currently they are busy testing various ways to plant; but the areas outside cannot be compared to the National Park, for example. "We need to see what we will do in the areas of the park. We have learned a lot and we have reached the point where, once we have grown a lot in the greenhouse, we can begin to fill the Park once again with plants that are native to Aruba, which a lot of people don't even know they exist anymore", according to Nunes.

Last April, on Earth Day, Aruba National Park announced the introduction of the Center of Cultivation.

The Center of Cultivation is an investment thanks to funds of Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Caribisch Gebied and donations from Aruba Airport Authority. This project is a clear example of the Earth Day 2022 theme, which is 'Invest in Our Planet'.

The Center of Cultivation is the heart of FPNA's Flora Biodiversity Enhancement and Climate Resilience Program. This workspace includes a seed bank, a workshop and plant nursery, and a composting station.

The seed bank will be utilized to store the seeds of more than 40 species of native and endangered species of shrubs and trees. The seeds will be used for cultivation but will also be stored to ensure genetic survival in case of pests and disease. The workshop adjacent to the plant nursery will increase the success rate of germination and propagation of young native flora, and the nursery area will be used to cultivate plants and taking care of them for one to two years until they are ready for outplanting and able to survive in our protected nature areas.



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 Like an eyesore
1 Years gone by

5 Act restless
11 High point
12 Singer Grande
13 Pivotal point
14 Snappy retort

15 Beer dispenser
16 Suit piece
17 Move smoothly
19 Carpenter's tool
22 Roberts of film
24 Following
26 The Emerald Isle
27 Diamond scores

28 Dance's de Mille
30 Thesaurus author
31 Not pos.
32 Skimpy swimwear
34 Campus area
35 Jar part
38 Kidnap
41 Ocean motion
42 Garment with laces
43 Shortly, in poems
44 Pollux's twin

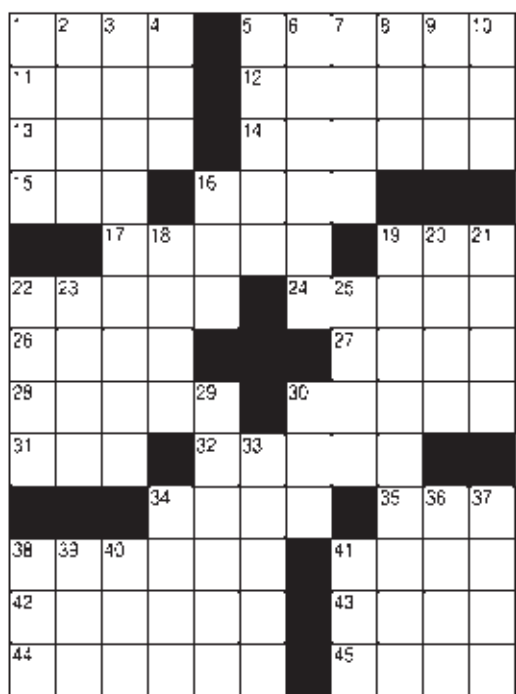
DOWN 1 Prepare for a trip
2 Farm chunk
3 Gun-running, e.g.

4 Cowboy nickname
5 Disconcerted
6 Van Gogh work
7 Force
8 Bit of humor
9 Hydrocarbon suffix
10 Black goo
16 Through

OVEN TORUS
TIRES EVENT
HOMETHEATER
ELIRON AVA
RANDOM SKEW
SERVE PENS
DEFOE
MOOR HUNTO
ERIE OTTERS
SILINS NIP
HOMESTEADER
ELATE TBONE
SENSE ANTE

Yesterday's answer

18 Script bit
19 Getting cuddly
20 Skin woe
21 Sunset site
22 Writer Cocteau
23 Goad on
25 Steel ingredient
29 Plaster finish
30 Singer Stewart
33 Hardly a fan
34 Throw in the towel
36 Fan's favorite
37 Refuse
38 Jackson 5 hit
39 Big snake
40 Dentist's deg.
41 Letter after sigma



9-14

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three U's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-14

CRYPTOQUOTE

ZNTC NP XZOXBP IENHI UE GC
PUFXHICF ULXH TNYUNEH.
GCYXSPC TNYUNEH LXP UE
GC YEHQNHYNHI, XHA ZNTC
AECPH'U. HCNZ IXNWXH

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: HAPPILY WE BASK
IN THIS WARM SEPTEMBER SUN, WHICH
ILLUMINATES ALL CREATURES. — HENRY DAVID
THOREAU

Queen Elizabeth is featured on several currencies. Now what?



Fiji \$10 and \$20 bills are pictured in Sydney, Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022.

Associated Press

By **KELVIN CHAN**
AP Business Writer

LONDON (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II has been depicted on British banknotes and coins for decades. Her portrait also has been featured on currencies in dozens of other places around the world, in a reminder of the British empire's colonial reach.

So what happens next after her death this week? It will take time for the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and other countries to swap out the monarchs on their money. Here's a look at what is next for the paper cash featuring the late queen:

SWITCHING MONARCHS

The queen's portrait on British notes and coins is expected to be replaced by a likeness of the new King Charles III, but it won't be immediate.

"Current banknotes featuring the image of Her Majesty The Queen will continue to be legal tender," the Bank of England said. An announcement on existing paper money issued by the U.K.'s central bank will be made after the official 10-day mourning period has ended, it said.

The Royal Mint, which is the official maker of British coins, said all coins with her portrait "remain legal tender and in circulation," with more information to come later.

"As we respect this period of respectful mourning, we continue to strike coins as usual," the Royal Mint said

on its website.

With 4.7 billion U.K. banknotes worth 82 billion pounds (\$95 billion) in circulation and about 29 billion coins, British money bearing the queen's image will likely be in circulation for years.

"Rather than all of the current coins and notes being handed in, the process will be a gradual one and many of the coins featuring portraits of Queen Elizabeth II will remain in circulation for many years to come," according to Coin Expert, a British coin research website.

After Charles takes the crown at his coronation, a new portrait will need to be taken to use on redesigned notes and coins, the website said.

Coins featuring him will show him facing to the left, replacing the queen's rightward gaze in line with tradition dating to the 17th century. It dictates monarchs be shown in profile and in opposite direction to their predecessors.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER COUNTRIES?

Other nations' currencies that feature the queen — from Australian, Canadian and Belizean dollars — also will be updated with the new monarch, but the process could take longer, because "it is much easier to enforce a new design in the country where it originates, rather than in other countries where different jurisdiction may take place," the Coin Expert

website said.

The Bank of Canada said its current \$20 banknote, made of synthetic polymer, is designed "to circulate for years to come."

"There is no legislative requirement to change the design within a prescribed period when the Monarch changes," the Bank of Canada said.

In general, when a new portrait subject is chosen for Canadian money, the process begins with drawing up a fresh design, and a new note is ready to be issued "a few years later," the bank said.

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand said it will issue all of its stock of coins depicting the queen before new ones go out with Charles' image. The queen also is featured on the \$20 bill, which is made "infrequently" and there is no "plan to destroy stock or shorten the life of existing banknotes just because they show the Queen," the bank said.

"It will be several years before we need to introduce coins featuring King Charles the Third, and longer until stocks of \$20 notes are exhausted," it added.

THE QUEEN'S CURRENCY

She first appeared on money when she was still a princess. That was in 1935, when Canada's \$20 bill featured 8-year-old Princess Elizabeth, whose grandfather King George V was then the monarch, as part of a new series of notes.

Canadian \$20 bills were updated with a new portrait of the queen in 1954, a year after her coronation, and her portrait also started appearing on other currencies around the world, mainly British colonies and Commonwealth countries. British bills didn't get her image until 1960 — seven years after her coronation. That's when the Bank of England was granted permission to use her likeness on paper money, starting with the 1-pound note, though the formal and regal image was criticized for being too severe and unrealistic. □

Starbucks to revamp stores to speed service, boost morale



Interim CEO Howard Schultz, left, and incoming CEO Laxman Narasimhan hug during Starbucks Investor Day 2022, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022, in Seattle.

Associated Press

By DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Business Writer

Starbucks — ringing up record sales but struggling with low employee morale — plans to spend \$450 million next year to make its North American stores more efficient and less complex.

The company also said it plans to open 2,000 net new stores in the U.S. by 2025, with an emphasis on meeting the growing demand for new types of service, including drive-thru, mobile ordering and delivery. Drive-thru now makes up 50% of U.S. sales, for example, while delivery demand has grown by 24% so far this year.

Customizable cold drinks — which now make up as many as 75% of Starbucks' U.S. beverage orders — are also taxing employ-

ees in kitchens designed for simpler hot drinks. Starbucks debuted a new work station that requires less movement and can cut 50 seconds off the process of making a blended iced mocha. And a new patented technology will cut the time needed to make cold brew coffee from 20 hours to a few seconds.

"It's clear that our physical stores have to change. Our physical stores were built for a different era," said John Culver, Starbucks' chief operating officer, at a day-long event for investors in Seattle Tuesday.

Starbucks executives made little mention of a growing unionization effort at its U.S. stores during morning presentations Tuesday. But it has clearly been an impetus for the company to think more deeply about

ways to improve employees' work life. Since late last year, 236 of Starbucks' 9,000 company-owned U.S. stores have voted to unionize, an effort the company opposes.

"The reality is, we have a trust deficit with our partners," said Frank Britt, Starbucks' executive vice president and chief strategy officer. "The work we do in our stores today is too physically hard."

It wasn't immediately clear if the new investments and technology would be offered to non-union stores; Starbucks said the company hasn't yet decided how the investment will be doled out. But in May, Starbucks announced \$200 million in additional pay and training but said that benefit would only go to non-union stores. Starbucks says it is required to negotiate new benefits with union stores.

Starbucks Workers United, the union organizing work-

ers, said around 300 protesters picketed outside the Starbucks meeting on Tuesday. Leading the revamp will be Laxman Narasimhan, a former PepsiCo executive who was named Starbucks' CEO last week. □

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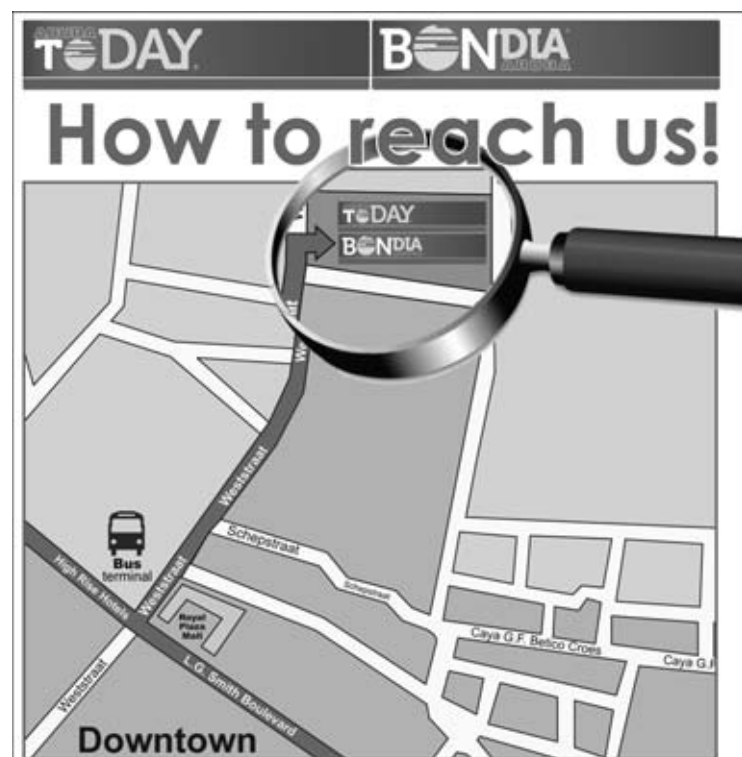
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At 50, TV's 'The Waltons' still stirs fans' love, nostalgia

By **BOBBY ROSS Jr.**
Associated Press

The Rev. Matt Curry's parents were children of the Great Depression, just like "The Waltons" — the beloved TV family whose prime-time series premiered 50 years ago.

When Curry was growing up on a farm in northern Texas, his carpenter father and teacher mother often argued playfully over who had a poorer childhood.

"The Depression was the seminal time of their lives — the time that was about family and survival and making it through," said Curry, now a 59-year-old Presbyterian pastor in Owensboro, Kentucky. "My dad used to talk about how his dad would go work out of town and send \$5 a week to feed and clothe the family."

So when "The Waltons," set in 1932 and running through World War II, debuted on CBS on Sept. 14, 1972, the Currys identified closely with the storylines. Millions of others felt the same, and the Thursday night drama about a Depression-era family in rural Virginia became one of TV's most popular and enduring programs.

At a time when the networks generally avoided "dangerous" content, "The Waltons" was notable for taking on difficult topics — religion, in particular — said Robert Thompson, director of Syracuse University's Bleier Center for Television and Popular Culture.

"I think it was an important show, and I think it actually doesn't get the attention that it deserves," Thompson said.

"The Waltons' really did get down and roll around in some very, very serious spiritual themes," he added. "For example, an atheist comes to town, and we get this whole discussion between atheism and spirituality."

"The Waltons" ran for nine seasons and 221 episodes, ranking as high as No. 2 in the Nielsen ratings. A half-century later it still stirs nostalgia among loyal fans who can't resist taking in



This photo provided by CBS in September 2022 shows actors in the television series "The Waltons." Bottom row from left are Judy Norton-Taylor, Eric Scott and Mary Elizabeth McDonough. Second row from left are Jon Walmsley, Ellen Corby, Will Geer, Kami Cotler and David W. Harper. Top row from left are Michael Learned, Richard Thomas and Ralph Waite.

Associated Press

cable TV reruns, bingeing episodes via streaming apps and keeping up with former stars through social media.

Based on the life of its creator, the late Earl Hamner Jr., the show followed a large extended family living in a white, two-story farmhouse and running a sawmill in the fictional Blue Ridge foothills town of Walton's Mountain. The parents, grandparents and seven children — John Jr., Jason, Mary Ellen, Erin, Ben, Jim-Bob and Elizabeth — were depicted wearing overalls and dresses, praying at meals and overcoming adversity through hard work and grace.

"The Waltons" focused on John Jr., known as John-Boy, played by Richard Thomas and modeled on Hamner. The oldest sibling, he aspired to be a writer and experience the world beyond his humble upbringing.

Now 71 and starring as lawyer Atticus Finch in a touring production of "To Kill a Mockingbird," Thomas said he still hears fans call "Good night, John-Boy!" af-

ter each performance. The familiar catchphrase pays homage to the Emmy-winning role that made him famous.

"It's kind of astonishing that we're still talking about a show 50 years later," said Thomas, who narrates "A Waltons Thanksgiving," a made-for-TV movie airing this fall on the CW network. "To have that kind of longevity and then have it mean enough for people to want to do a new version of it — I'm not sure exactly why," he added. "I know it affected a lot of people's lives. But I think primarily Earl Hamner's writing was just so great and the cast loved each other so much and we were so committed."

John-Boy had a lot to do with the show's popularity — and inspired many a crush back then among fans like Jerri Harrington, now 67, of Centreville, Virginia.

Harrington still watches an episode every night with her husband of 47 years. During the frightening early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, she said, its characters — particularly grand-

ma Esther, played by the late Ellen Corby — brought a sense of comfort and return to childhood.

"It just feels familiar," said Harrington, a grandmother herself.

Another lifelong fan, Carol Jackson, like Curry the daughter of Depression-era parents, sees her own family's story reflected.

She became a fan as a kindergartner and as an adult placed "Waltons" DVDs in the resort cabins that her family operated in the Ozarks of northern Arkansas. The homespun stories still connect with the 55-year-old mother of three.

"I just told my kids, 'One day when I'm old and in my wheelchair ... just wheel me in front of 'The Waltons' on a continual loop, and I'll be happy,'" Jackson said.

Kami Cotler, who was 6 years old when she first starred as youngest sibling Elizabeth in a 1971 holiday TV movie that launched the series, still interacts regularly with such fans via her Facebook page, which has nearly 150,000 followers.

Cotler said "The Waltons" shared "universal truths" that help explain its lasting popularity.

"The show frequently told really simple human stories that resonate with people because that's what life is like," said Cotler, now an educator in Southern California. "People will joke that it was very saccharine sweet, but I don't think that it actually was."

On the show, parents John Walton Sr. and Olivia Walton — played, respectively, by the late Ralph Waite, an ordained minister in real life, and Michael Learned — frequently clashed over their differing approaches to God. Olivia was a devout Baptist, but John Sr. was not a churchgoer.

"I've always looked for God in my own way," he said in one episode.

An ongoing theme was the appearance in Walton's Mountain of an outsider — a Jewish family fleeing Nazi persecution, a Black boxer and preacher raising money for a new church,

a Hollywood actress who smoked and drank — who met a mixed reception.

In 1972's "The Sinner" episode, a young pastor played by the late John Ritter arrived preaching fire-and-brimstone Bible verses. But he inadvertently became intoxicated after drinking too much of the "secret recipe" served by the Baldwin sisters, two prim and proper recurring characters who didn't seem to realize they were bootleggers. After the mishap touched off something of a scandal, John Sr. made a rare appearance at church and pointed to Jesus' words from John 8:7: "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

"The religious aspect of the show had to do with the fact that Earl Hamner was talking about a time and a place ... where those issues were very much in play," said Thomas, now a grandfather of four. "I mean, in a small community in the mountains of Virginia in the Depression, if you don't deal with the church aspect of things, then you don't deal with things as they were."

Over the show's long run, the Waltons and their neighbors learned valuable lessons about overcoming differences and treating everyone with love and respect. Those lessons, Cotler said, "are perhaps even more relevant today." On a personal note, Cotler, a secular Jew, credits her grandpa Zeb, played by the late Will Geer, with teaching her how to sing church songs on the show. Curry, the Kentucky pastor, said "The Waltons" reflected how Jesus often rebukes religious people for hypocrisy in the Bible, while commending an unexpected person — such as a Samaritan who helped a stranger — for showing love and grace. The show "talked about religion and faith ... in a way that does not demean people," Curry said. "There's something in there that we are missing today, and it's the sense of community, of unity, of battling through hard times." □

'Thursday Night Football': Where to find Prime Video games

By **JOE REEDY**
AP Sports Writer

Thursday night's game between the Los Angeles Chargers and Kansas City Chiefs kicks off Amazon Prime Video's 11-year agreement with the NFL to carry "Thursday Night Football".

Here's what we know about the easiest way to find the games each week as well as why the NFL is entering the streaming universe:

HOW DO I FIND THE NFL GAMES BEING STREAMED BY AMAZON?

The main complaint after Prime Video aired a Saturday afternoon game between the San Francisco 49ers and Arizona Cardinals in 2020 was that hardly anyone knew how to access it. Both the NFL and Amazon have tried to solve that with an aggressive promotional campaign.

For most viewers, the Prime Video app on televisions, phones and tablets or Amazon.com on computers will be their way to see it. Games will be available on stations in the markets of the participating teams, which is the same policy for games carried on ESPN and NFL Network.



Robert "Bojo" Ackah, center, and Fik-Shun, left, perform during the announcement of the first Thursday Night Football on Prime Video matchup featuring the San Diego Chargers at Kansas City Chiefs at the 2022 NFL Draft on Thursday, April 28, 2022 in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Bars, restaurants and hotels will also be able to access the games through a deal with DirecTV.

WHY DID THE NFL SELL A STREAMING PACKAGE?

The \$1.2 billion per year the NFL is getting from Amazon for 15 Thursday night games is 80% more than it was receiving from Fox, which carried most of the Thursday night matchups

for four seasons.

Fox, NBC and CBS had all carried games on Thursday night since 2014, but for the most part were losing money.

Since it is a short turnaround, the most times a team will play on Thursday night is twice, and that is usually because they were involved in the Week 1 Kick-off Game or Thanksgiving.

That often makes finding appealing matchups difficult, especially when there are two other prime-time packages to schedule.

The league though does see streaming as another transition in how games are viewed, much as it was with cable in the 1980s and satellite television in the 1990s. "Over the last five years we have started the migration

to streaming. This is another large step in this direction," said New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft, chairman of the league's media committee, when the deal was announced last year. "Our fans want this option and understand streaming is the future. We have created a unique hybrid of viewing options and streaming. This should provide a smooth transition to the future of content distribution."

WHAT TYPE OF AUDIENCE IS AMAZON EXPECTING?

According to the Wall Street Journal, Amazon has told media buyers it is estimating an average audience of 12.6 million viewers. That would be down from the 16.4 million average for last year's games on Fox and NFL Network, but understandable since this is a significant change in viewing habits.

According to Amazon, 80 million households used Prime Video in the past year.

HOW WILL AUDIENCES BE MEASURED?

Amazon has signed a three-year agreement with Nielsen last month to track ratings. □

Alcaraz, Ruud at 1-2 in ATP rankings; Swiatek, Jabeur in WTA

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Carlos Alcaraz's U.S. Open championship moved him to No. 1 on Monday at age 19, making him the youngest man to lead the ATP computerized rankings since they began in 1973.

"It's a dream. At the moment, I can't believe I reached No. 1. It's going to take time to understand it," Alcaraz said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I have to move on and find new goals. I have to keep at this level, at No. 1, for many years. That's my goal — and, of course, to get more Grand Slams."

The Spaniard's victory by a 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (1), 6-3 score over Casper Ruud in Sunday's final allowed Alcaraz to win his first major title and to replace 2021 U.S. Open

champion Daniil Medvedev atop the rankings.

Alcaraz's three-spot jump from No. 4 ties the mark for biggest move up to No. 1. Ruud, a 23-year-old from Norway, went from No. 7 to No. 2 after reaching his second major final of the season. He was the runner-up to Rafael Nadal at the French Open in June.

Sunday's matchup was the first Grand Slam final featuring two men both trying to win a first Slam trophy and with No. 1 on the line, too. "He's riding that wave. At the moment, he's the best player in the world, in my eyes. He deserves that spot," Ruud said. "I'm happy that we played each other in the final and that we played for the title and the world No. 1 spot."

Nadal also entered the U.S. Open with a chance

to move back up to No. 1, but he stayed at No. 3 after losing in the fourth round to Frances Tiafoe, who wound up being the first American man in the semifinals at Flushing Meadows in 16 years and going from No. 26 to a career-high No. 19. Medvedev dropped to No. 4, and Tokyo Olympic gold medalist Alexander Zverev went from No. 2 to No. 5 after sitting out the U.S. Open because of torn ligaments in his right ankle.

Novak Djokovic missed his second Grand Slam tournament this season because he is not vaccinated against COVID-19 and slid one place down to No. 7. Iga Swiatek's third major title, and first in New York, kept her at No. 1 in the WTA rankings and left the 21-year-old from Poland with more than twice as



Carlos Alcaraz, of Spain, reacts after scoring a point against Casper Ruud, of Norway, during the men's singles final of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Sunday, Sept. 11, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

many points as the new No. 2, Ons Jabeur, who was the runner-up Saturday.

Swiatek also won the French Open and is the first woman in six years to claim two Slams in one season. Anett Kontaveit slipped one spot to No. 3 after los-

ing in the second round of the U.S. Open to Serena Williams.

Two American players are in the top 10 in career-best positions after reaching the quarterfinals: Jessica Pegula at No. 5 and Coco Gauff at No. 8. □

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Reynolds homers in 2nd straight game, Pirates beat Reds 6-1

CINCINNATI (AP) — Bryan Reynolds homered for the second straight game and drove in two runs, leading the Pittsburgh Pirates over the Cincinnati Reds 6-1 Tuesday in a doubleheader opener.

Cincinnati's Jake Fraley was hit on the head by Manny Bañuelos' 93.5 mph fastball in the eighth inning. Down for several minutes, Fraley got to his feet and was led off the field by an athletic trainer.

"It's part of the game," Fraley said. "Any time you go to the plate, there is a chance that it could happen. ... It could have been a lot worse. It hit me straight between the C-flap and the brim. It was straight off the helmet. Most of the time when it hits you that square, the manager doesn't give you a choice. Being that late in the game, it is better to check and make sure everything is good."

Cal Mitchell hit a two-run



Pittsburgh Pirates' Bryan Reynolds watches his solo home run during the fifth inning of the first game of a baseball doubleheader against the Cincinnati Reds in Cincinnati, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022.

Associated Press

shot for his first homer since July 22 and Ke'Bryan Hayes added his first home run since Aug. 7, helping last-place Pittsburgh win back-

to-back games for the first time since Aug. 18 against Boston and Aug. 19 against Cincinnati. The Pirates (53-88) are assured of their

fourth straight losing season and the Reds (56-84) of their seventh in nine years but first since 2019.

The game drew 9,338, the

Reds' fourth-lowest at home this season. Three of Cincinnati's six home crowds under 10,000 have been for games against the Pirates. Pittsburgh hit three homers for the second straight game, sending the fourth-place Reds to a fourth consecutive loss after winning three in a row.

Johan Oviedo (1-1) pitched hitless ball into the fifth and allowed one hit over five shutout innings for his first win since his Sept. 1 recall from Triple-A Indianapolis. He struck out four and walked two while lowering his earned-run average to 3.34 in the longest of his three Pittsburgh starts.

"He's made some adjustments," Shelton said. "He was more clean on the mound. His slider was really good and effective."

"I got more work in the bullpen," Oviedo said. "I was trying to get ahead. That's my best five innings in a while." □

Joshua accepts terms for heavyweight fight with Fury



Britain's Anthony Joshua, right, launches a blow at Ukraine's Oleksandr Usyk during their world heavyweight title fight at King Abdullah Sports City in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Sunday, Aug. 21, 2022.

Associated Press

By **STEVE DOUGLAS**
AP Sports Writer

A long-anticipated all-British heavyweight fight

between Tyson Fury and Anthony Joshua appears closer than ever. Joshua's management

group said in a post on Twitter on Tuesday that its fighter has accepted the terms presented by Fury for a bout on Dec. 3.

That was made known to Fury's team on Friday, the 258MGT group said, before both parties agreed to halt communication following the death of Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday.

"We are awaiting a response," posted the management team, which said it was speaking on behalf of Joshua along with the fighter's promoter, Matchroom.

The response was pretty much immediate from Fury's British promoter, Frank Warren.

"Contract will be with you very soon," Warren said on

Twitter.

In a video on social media last week, Fury — the WBC champion — said he was willing to offer Joshua 40% of the purse for a title fight before the end of the year. "He doesn't have any excuses now not to take it," Fury said. "He can't say I've low-balled him and offered him 20 or 30%. I've offered (his) people 40% — take it or leave it."

Joshua's promoter, Eddie Hearn, said he would be interested in making the fight if Fury's offer was serious. It has been reported in the British media that the purse for any rematch — if Fury was to lose — would be a 50-50 split.

The unbeaten Fury appears to have gone back on his

decision to retire in the wake of beating another British fighter, Dillian Whyte, in front of around 90,000 spectators at Wembley Stadium in April.

Fury's hopes of landing a fight with Oleksandr Usyk, who retained the WBA, WBO and IBF belts by beating Joshua in Saudi Arabia last month, were dashed when the Ukrainian said he did not intend to fight again this year.

Fury turned his sights on Joshua, who said after the Usyk fight that he intended to work his way back up to being a three-time champion — potentially facing opponents in the second tier of the heavyweight division — after losing three of his last five bouts. □